

SENATE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

1 WHEREAS, the State of Missouri is currently facing a budget
2 crisis and has limited resources for state spending; and

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly is a co-equal branch of state
4 government and is responsible for the appropriation of state
5 funds for various governmental entities; and

6 WHEREAS, the public expects and requires the General
7 Assembly to ensure that state resources are being used as
8 efficiently and effectively as possible; and

9 WHEREAS, the General Assembly is responsible for the
10 appropriation of funds to support the operation of the forty-five
11 judicial circuits of this state; and

12 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has a duty to ensure that
13 funds appropriated to the forty-five judicial circuits are being
14 used efficiently and effectively:

15 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the
16 Missouri Senate, Ninety-Second General Assembly, First Regular
17 Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby
18 establish the Joint Interim Committee on Judicial Resources in
19 Missouri; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall be composed
21 of two majority members and one minority member of the Senate, to
22 be appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate; two majority
23 members and one minority member of the House of Representatives,

1 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
2 and one appellate judge, one circuit judge, and one associate
3 circuit judge, to be appointed by the chief justice of the
4 supreme court; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall conduct a
6 comprehensive analysis of the activities of the state's forty-
7 five judicial circuits, including an examination of the caseload
8 of each circuit judge, associate circuit judge, and any
9 commissioner of the circuit, examine any other issues that the
10 committee deems relevant, and make any recommendations for
11 improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the judicial
12 circuits; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee be authorized to
14 hold hearings as it deems advisable, and may solicit any input or
15 information necessary to fulfill its obligations from the Office
16 of State Courts Administrator, any judicial circuit within the
17 state and the Missouri Bar; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the staffs of House Research,
19 Senate Research and the Committee on Legislative Research shall
20 provide such legal, research, clerical, technical and bill
21 drafting services as the Committee may require in the performance
22 of its duties; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee, its members, and
24 any staff personnel assigned to the Committee shall receive
25 reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in
26 attending meetings of the Committee or any subcommittee thereof;
27 and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee report its

1 recommendations and findings to the Missouri General Assembly by
2 January 1, 2004, and the authority of such Committee shall
3 terminate on December 31, 2003; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri
5 Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this
6 resolution for the President Pro Tem of the Senate, the Speaker
7 of the House of Representatives, the office of the State Courts
8 Administrator which office shall supply a copy to each judicial
9 circuit in the state, and the Missouri Bar Association.